WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Rob Wittman (VA-1) has announced the launch of the 2013 First District Congressional Art Competition. All high school students living in Virginia's First District are eligible to enter their work in the competition by the April 26, 2013, submission deadline.

"The First District of Virginia is full of many skilled, creative youth, and I encourage any interested students to submit their original artwork to my office for the opportunity to be honored in the U.S. Capitol for a year," Wittman said. "The Congressional Art Competition provides a great opportunity for aspiring artists to hone their artistic skills and showcase their work. I look forward to seeing all of the impressive entries from the First District."

Each spring, a high school arts competition is sponsored by the Congressional Institute and by each Member of the U.S. House of Representatives. The Congressional Art Competition began in 1982 to provide an opportunity for Members of Congress to encourage and recognize the artistic talents of their young constituents. Since then, over 650,000 high school students have been involved with the nation-wide competition.

All high school students are eligible to enter. The winning entry from the First District will be displayed for one year in the U.S. Capitol. All entries submitted must be original in concept, design and execution. Entries should be directed to one of Rep. Wittman's district office locations in Fredericksburg, Tappahannock, or Yorktown by Friday, April 26, 2013, in order to be eligible for judging. Address details are available at www.wittman.house.gov.

Full Guidelines: http://wittman.house.gov/images/stories/2013ArtContestGuidelines.pdf

Student Release Form: http://wittman.house.gov/images/stories/2013ArtContestReleaseForm.

Congressman Rob Wittman represents the First District of Virginia. He serves on the House Natural Resources Committee and the House Armed Services Committee where he is the Chairman of the Readiness Subcommittee.